

# Town Talk.

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## NEWS

# Rapides Parish Police Juror Scott Perry dies

**Melissa Gregory** Alexandria Town Talk

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Public visitation will be held Friday for Rapides Parish Police Juror Scott Perry Jr., who died on Sunday.

Viewing will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at Newman United Methodist Church, 5700 Oran St. in Alexandria. Viewing also will be held again on Saturday from 9 a.m. until a private service at 11 a.m.

Perry, 90, was elected to an eighth term in October 2019. Juror President Craig Smith said he was notified of Perry's death on Sunday. He called Perry "a great man."

"We're all just trying to grasp that," said Smith of Perry's death.

Smith said jury officials still were working on next steps to fill Perry's seat and for a special election in the future.

The Rev. Tiffanie Postell of Newman United Methodist announced Perry's death during her Facebook Live service on Sunday, saying he died earlier that morning around 9:55.

Perry, who graduated from Peabody Senior High School and attended Louisiana College, was a member of the church. During the service, Postell asked members to pray for Perry's family.

He represented District I, which includes the Kelleyland and Walnut Grove subdivisions, parts of England Airpark and the Garden District in Alexandria. He was the retired owner of Scott Perry Jr. and sons Vault Service and former owner of Scott Perry Jr. Sanitation Service.

Both Postell and Laurel Smith, jury secretary, remembered how Perry loved to sing.

Smith said she recalled Perry coming to her childhood home when he worked with his sanitation business and how he and her father would sing gospel songs in their living room.

"He was such a good Christian man," she said.

Smith said anyone who met Perry loved him and that he will be greatly missed.

Postell, who has been at Newman United Methodist for less than two years, said she has learned about Perry's history and heard his stories. She called him a "pillar" of the church who was instrumental in helping it in many ways.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic suspended in-person services, Perry would drive him and his wife, Doris Lee Perry, to church, and they'd sit in their regular seats in the sanctuary.

One of her favorite memories happened last year on Palm Sunday, she said. After holding online services, Perry called her to tell her how much he enjoyed it. But, before they ended the call, he insisted on singing the song he would have sung had they all been together.

From then on, when they'd talk on the phone, he'd include a song.

'His body might have been getting older, but his mind was sharp as a tack," she said.

Postell said she's thinking about Perry and his close-knit family.

"This is a great loss for us. We feel this loss very different," she said, because of Perry's influence and those he mentored.

"It's a sad, sad time."

According to his biography page on the jury's website, Perry is survived by his wife, five children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.